opuated. March 7, 2001	
Source: Centers for	or Disease Control and Prevention/Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program
Focus Areas	Preparedness Planning and Readiness Assessment
Funded	Surveillance and Epidemiology – Core Activities
	Laboratory Capacity – Biological Agents
	Laboratory Capacity – Chemical Agents
	Grant funded under Michigan Department of Community Health
	(MDCH)
Michigan has	Hiring additional staff to support bioterrorism preparedness efforts (2)
strengthened	Epidemiologists, Bioterrorism Preparedness Coordinator and
its capacity	Bioterrorism Laboratory Coordinator),
to respond	Enhancing awareness of the state and local public health role in
to threats of	bioterrorism response efforts,
bioterrorism	Providing assistance to local health agencies in preparing bioterrorism
by:	preparedness and response plans,
	Developing partnerships with Poison Control Centers, Metropolitan
	Medical Response System (MMRS) in Detroit, Sterling Heights, and
	Grand Rapids, the Michigan State Police, and the FBI,
	Chairing a Michigan Terrorism Taskforce Medical Subcommittee to
	define the roles and responsibilities of the medical community in
	responding to a WMD incident and to identify the resources within the
	private and public health care communities that could enhance
	preparation and response efforts,
	 Assisting Michigan Infectious Disease Society in development of a
	pamphlet for primary care physicians that characterizes the diagnoses
	and treatment of patients suspected to have been exposed to a
	biological agent,
	 Establishing and publicizing a 24-hour emergency number for
	emergency notification of any acute situation which may indicate a
	bioterrorism event,
	 Publishing a physician awareness poster titled "Index of Suspicion"
	focusing on the need for prompt reporting of unusual events,
	Establishing a comprehensive listing of key local health staff who would
	be the initial public health responders to a bioterrorist incident,
	 Constructing and testing an Emergency Broadcast Fax and Email
	system to notify partners (local public health, Michigan State Police,
	FBI, Michigan Hospital Association, etc) during a public health
	emergency,
	Developing an integrated investigation package using CDC's Epi-Info
	software program to facilitate data entry, management and analysis of
	investigations associated with food-borne illnesses,
	Forming the Michigan Infectious Disease Society, Bioterrorism
	Response Subcommittee to increase involvement of Michigan's

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program

- infectious disease physicians in planning a response to a bioterrorism event,
- Conducting training for medical directors and local health officers on issues associated with bioterrorism,
- Conducting regional trainings for a statewide Public Health Performance Assessment in coordination with Michigan State Police (MSP) Emergency Management,
- Improving laboratory capacities to rapidly detect, characterize, and diagnose a number of diseases and chemical agents related to bioterrorism,
- Preparing, tabulating, analyzing, and distributing survey results of moderate and high complexity clinical laboratories to determine existing knowledge of Category A agents, extent of microbiology service, available engineering controls to prevent aerosols, determine willingness to participate in the Laboratory Response Network (LRN), and to identify a laboratory point-of –contact in each facility,
- Preparing a procedure manual compliant with NCCLS guidelines for Level A laboratories. Distributing manual on diskette as part of Level A laboratory training,
- Developing an in-service education program for Level A laboratories.
 This program discusses the purpose of the LRN, covers the epidemiology, disease entities and microbiology of the Category A agents. The program is accompanied by an evaluation form and post test.
- MDCH laboratory personnel providing Level B laboratory training to the five regional laboratories in Michigan,
- Compiling database of Level A laboratories that provide microbiology services and are willing to participate in the Laboratory Response Network,
- Developing a broadcast fax network to provide rapid communications to Level A laboratories.
- Increasing knowledge of chemical agents by attending organization meetings for chemical agent laboratory capacity,
- Receiving training and establishing nerve agent methodology in chemical laboratory, and
- Successfully participating in the first round of proficiency testing for the nerve agents.

Project Year 2 Plans (August 31, 2000-August

- Completing the Public Health Performance Assessment survey of Michigan local public health systems and developing a database to analyze data,
- Designing and conducting a table-top exercise to test capacities to

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30, 2001) include:

respond to a bioterrorism event,

- Developing an SOP for surveillance, communications, administering biologics, and emergency preparedness to augment Michigan Emergency Management Plan,
- Developing protocols for receipt of the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile,
- Identifying public health pharmaceutical resources available for bioterrorism incident response,
- Collaborating with local Medical Control Authorities to develop protocols for distribution of pharmaceutical stockpile within local jurisdictions,
- Continued training of local public health partners on bioterrorism preparedness and response,
- Developing infrastructure for mental health services focused on addressing the consequences of a bioterrorist act,
- Participating on committee to assist MSP in development of Three-Year Statewide Domestic Preparedness Strategy,
- Continued collaboration with partners (i.e., local public health officials, emergency services, and health care communities) to improve surveillance systems statewide,
- Partnering with the Poison Control Program at the Detroit Medical Center to share data for specific syndromic surveillance analysis,
- Developing tools to be used for the bioterrorism awareness and education of medical professionals,
- Presenting in-service education program at approximately 120 Level A facilities,
- Developing an interim proficiency testing mechanism for Level B laboratories,
- Preparing specimen collection kits and instructions for collecting nonclinical samples,
- Improving overall capabilities to rapidly detect and identify chemical agents that could be used in a terrorist event,
- Developing a Chemical Terrorism Workgroup,
- Continued laboratory training for chemical agents including sulfur mustard agents and the Lewisite agents, and
- Continued training of chemical laboratory staff through vendor sponsored training programs.

Source: Centers f	or Disease Control and Prevention/Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program
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Anecdotes	MDCH participated in the emergency response to three anthrax hoaxes. Involvement in these incidents fueled the assessment of coordinated

response efforts between local, state, and federal agencies. Continued collaboration with these agencies will ensure a cohesive and rapid

response to any emergency that threatens the lives of Michigan citizens.

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After receiving the "Index of Suspicion" poster, several hospital staff members stated that they had been unaware of their obligation to report. This illustrates the need for continued outreach and education of medical professionals.

While conducting regional trainings for the DOJ Assessments, MDCH and MSP personnel were able to establish new ties and strengthen existing bonds between public health and emergency management personnel throughout Michigan.

3/22/2001